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liquid walls which contain it. May not the velocity of this stream, therefore, be in some sort the result of this working and twisting, this peristaltic force in the sea.

"Brooke's lead and the microscope, therefore, it would seem, are about to teach us to regard the ocean in a new light. Its bosom, which so teems with animal life; its face, upon which time writes no wrinkles—snakes no impression—are, it would now seem, as obedient to the great law of change as is any department whatever, either of the animal or the vegetable kingdom. It is now suggested that henceforward we should view the surface of the sea as a nursery teeming with nascent organisms; its depth as the cemetery for families of living creatures that outnumber the sands on the sea-shore for multitude. Where there is a nursery, hard-by there will be found also a grave-yard—such is the condition of the animal world. But it never occurred to us before to consider the surface of the sea as one wide nursery, its every ripple as a cradle, and its bottom one vast burial-place."

## Architecture.

The architects of the country deeming an organization essential to the promotion of the interests of their profession, have held several preliminary meetings, with a view to a realization of this object. These meetings have resulted in the preparation of a Constitution and a code of By-Laws, and the election of a Board of Trustees.

The last meeting was held in the chapel of the University, on the evening of April 15th, at which the president, Richard Upjohn, Esq., presided. The constitution was signed by the members present, which act establishes the association to be hereafter known under the title of

### "THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS."

The Constitution is as follows:

ARTICLE I.—The name of the Society shall be the AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

ARTICLE II.—The object of this Institute is to promote the scientific and practical perfection of its members, and to elevate the standing of the profession.

ARTICLE III.—The means of accomplishing this end shall be regular meetings of the members for the discussion of subjects of professional importance; lectures on topics of general interest; the collection of a library, designs, and models, to which the members shall have free access; social intercourse among its members, and other means which the future may develop.

ARTICLE IV.—The business of the Institute shall be conducted by a Board of Trustees, nine in number, to be elected annually, on the 25th day of March, at an extra meeting, of which notice is to be given in three of the daily papers of New York City, on or before the 15th day of February, and thereafter once in each week until the day of election; the new Board to enter office on the first Tuesday of April.

ARTICLE V.—The Trustees shall elect out of their own number a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer and Librarian, who shall be the officers of the Institute. They shall appoint their Secretary, who shall be the Secretary of the Institute, and who shall also keep a record of the minutes of all meetings.

ARTICLE VI.—The Trustees shall hold office for one year only; but shall be eligible for re-election.

ARTICLE VII.—The Board of Trustees shall make their own By-Laws.

ARTICLE VIII.—There shall be two regular meetings of the Institute in each of the months of October, November, December, January,

February and March, and one in each of the months of April, May, June, July, August and September.

ARTICLE IX.—The Institute shall consist of Professional Architects, who shall first be proposed and elected as associate members, and who may afterwards be elected as full professional members, by the Board of Trustees, upon motion of one of their number. Full professional members shall pay an initiation fee of \$10, and a contribution of \$10 per annum, in advance, upon signing the Constitution. Associate members shall pay an initiation fee of \$5, and an annual contribution of \$5, payable in advance, until admitted to full membership, when they shall pay the additional initiation fee of \$5. Only full professional members shall be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE X.—Until the first day of July next ensuing, Architects may be proposed for election as full professional members.

ARTICLE XI.—Each member shall have the privilege of introducing a visitor to the meetings of the Institute, during any one month, excepting the annual meetings for election.

ARTICLE XII.—The names of candidates for membership shall be proposed by two members of the Institute, at any regular meeting, which proposition shall be posted in some conspicuous place in the rooms of the Institute, for thirty days; after which period, any person thus nominated may be balloted for at any regular meeting, and shall be considered duly elected, unless three votes are cast against him. In case of rejection, no notice is to be taken of it in the minutes.

ARTICLE XIII.—Honorary and corresponding members may be nominated and elected in the manner specified in Article 12th. They shall be admitted to all meetings, but shall not be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE XIV.—The discussion of religious and political subjects shall not be permitted at any of the meetings of the Institute.

ARTICLE XV.—The first Board of Trustees shall be elected at a special meeting, called for that purpose by the President *pro tem.*; and the Board so and then elected shall hold office until the first Tuesday of April, 1858.

ARTICLE XVI.—The Constitution may be altered or amended only by a vote of three-fourths of all the members present at a special meeting, called for that purpose by the Board of Trustees. To which meeting a written invitation, stating the nature of such amendment or alteration, shall be directed by the Secretary to every member, and mailed to his address, not less than twenty days previous to the day of the meeting.

ARTICLE XVII.—A special meeting of the Institute shall take place annually, on the 22d day of February, to commemorate the organization of the Institute.

The following gentlemen compose the first board of trustees: Richard Upjohn, President; Thomas U. Walter, First Vice-President; F. A. Petersen, Second Vice-President; J. W. Ritch, Treasurer; R. M. Hunt, Librarian; Joseph C. Wells, Frederick Diaper, H. Dudley, A. J. Davis.

Reports and discussions on various matters of business were made with reference generally to the reading of appropriate articles at the regular meetings, to financial matters, and to the procuring of suitable rooms. Resolutions were passed instructing the secretary to distribute copies of the Constitution, and to furnish an abstract of the proceedings of the meeting for publication in "The Crayon."

After disposing of the business before the meeting, in the discussion of which Messrs. Upjohn, Walter, Gardner, Vaux, Wells, Petersen, and Ritch took part, Mr. T. U. Walter made an address, in which he happily alluded to the necessity, usefulness, and prospective results of the Institute, as well as to the noble character of the Art of architecture, and the importance of making its significance better appreciated by the public of this country. After Mr. Walter had concluded his remarks the meeting adjourned.

R. M. HUNT, Secretary.